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Prof Babcock

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College.

VOL. XIII. CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1910. No. 9.

LOBSTER TO BE LOWERED?

Rumored Decrease in Cost of Living Denied by Trustees—Rumor Rampant.

Thruout the past week rumors have been current about the Campus to th effect that changes in the management of Commons Hall were contemplated by the Board of Trustees. It was whispered that while the present steward was to be retained, his work was to be done upon a salary basis under the direction of a governing board composed of representatives of the Faculty and student body. Speculation grew to such an extent that what was absolutely unfounded surmise was accepted as truth and fact. Where the rumor originated is unknown save that it gained considerable credence even among several members of the Faculty.

On Sunday evening in conversation with a Life reporter, Dr. Stryker made the following statement: "There are to be no immediate changes in the management of Commons except that after the first of January board will be reduced from $4.50 to $4.00 per week. As always heretofore one Senior representative of each crowd boarding there is one of a committee of suggestion and advice." It is understood that the fifty cents per week which is to be deducted has heretofore served to defray the expense of heating and lighting Commons. Beginning with next term this expense will be met by the College.

Of the remaining members of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees, George E. Dunham and Hon. Frederick W. Griffith could not be reached. Charles B. Rogers, treasurer of the College, referred all inquiries to Dr. Stryker. Hon. James S. Sherman, in a telephone conversation emphatically denied all rumors. "You may state," said Mr. Sherman, "that there is absolutely no foundation to the report. The executive committee held a meeting last Tuesday, but no action was taken regarding the management of Commons." Mr. Sherman also verified the statement that the board for next term would be reduced.

To quote Dr. Stryker, "It is funny how College gossip will grow!"

LET THERE BE LIGHT.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees held last Tuesday money was appropriated to defray the expense of wiring the Library for electricity. The work will be done during the Christmas vacation.

For some time past the Library has failed to fulfill its purpose in tha it was not always available when most needed. The short winter afternoons have rendered the rooms almost dusky after four o'clock while evening reading at any time of year has been, of course, prevented. Commencing with Winter Term the Libra ry will be open evenings and in all probability the afternoon hours will be lengthened. As yet no arrangements for an increase in the Library forces have been completed.

HONORED MEMORY OF JUDGE TRUAX.

On friday, November 25, a bronze tablet was unveiled by the bench and bar of New York County in the county court house in memory of Charles H. Truax, '67, who was for five years tically the entire bench of the Sua justice of the Supreme Court. Pracpreme Court was present, and several justices from the Appellate Division. Senator Root, '64, was the principal speaker. He spoke of his friendship with Justice Truax, begun in Hamilton College, and enduring ever since college days. He paid a tribute to the ability of Justice Truax on the bench, and to his simple manners and lack of ostentation.

The tablet represents Justice Truax seated at the bench wearing his robe of office and holding a gavel in his hand. The sculptor is John Boyle. The inscription reads:

CHARLES HENRY TRUAX,
Judge Superior Court, Jan. 1, 1881—Jan. 1, 1905;
Justice Supreme Court Jan. 1, 1906—Jan. 1, 1910.

NEW SCHEME SUCCESSFUL.

New Plan of Financing Athletics Meets Needs of College and is Attracting Attention.

With the close of the Athletic Association's fiscal year comes treasurer Carruth's report that the new system of financing athletics has proved successful, and that not only have all expenses been settled to date but there is a good start made toward a sinking fund, which may, in time, make a considerable depreciation in the amount of the student tax. The tax this term amounted to about $1,050, while some fifteen men have not yet paid, nor made application for remittance slips. Were this extra hundred dollars paid up promptly it would not be necessary to levy such a heavy tax next term. Furthermore, these men who have neither paid their tax nor received remittance blanks will forfeit their vote at the coming election on December 10.

The new system came as a result of a long felt need of some radical improvement in our financial system. Inasmuch as a majority of our games are played on Steuben Field, where the attendance outside the College proper is never very large, our gate receipts have in years past failed to cover expenses. While other small colleges have great crowds at their football games and obtain thousands of dollars annually by this means, the average crowd at the games on College Hill is not over two hundred. The per capita tax, adopted this year by the Athletic Association, together with the new system of book-keeping has given Hamilton a businesslike solution to the problem.

Professor Lewis, the president of the Athletic Association, has received several inquiries from various institutions and sporting journals regarding the working of the new scheme. Mr. Caspar Whitney, a well-known sporting authority and editor of the "Outdoor American" department of Collier's Weekly, is making an investigation of the plan, using its success at Hamilton as a basis of his work.

The new financial system is this: The board of estimate and apportionment, composed of the officers of the Athletic Association and the managers of the various teams, formulates a budget, including all athletic expenses for the coming year. From this necessary amount is deducted the voluntary contributions of the Alumni, and the gate receipts. The balance is then apportioned upon the Student Body by a per capita tax which may in no case exceed fifteen dollars a year. Any man who is unable to pay the tax may have it remitted in whole or in part and receive the same privileges as those who have paid. Comparatively few such slips have been issued.

In the new book-keeping system, each manager is supplied with two sets of expense cards for his department, each set being made out in duplicate, one each for the treasurer and manager. One set of cards is for receipts and the other for expenditures, each card carrying with it the balance to date, so that either treasurer or manager can see at a glance the exact financial condition of any department.

Professor Lewis states, in regard to the advantages of the new tax and book-keeping:

"We discount all bills by cash payment, and buy all athletic supplies at the lowest wholesale rate.

"There is no outstanding indebtedness in any department, nor can there be, for managers must keep their expenses within their apportionment.

"The system is very convenient, as each man makes three payments a year, instead of being continually asked for subscriptions.

"The value which the men who pay the tax receive by way of admission to games, entrance fees, use of supplies, etc., in a large measure offsets the amount of the tax, and the balance which they pay is in no case a burdensome tax."

FRESHMAN STATISTICS.

Average age, 18 years 8 months.
Average height, 5 feet 9 inches.
Average weight, 139 pounds.
Oldest man, Regin, 22 years.
Youngest man, Bissel, 15 years.
Tallest man, Callahan, 6 ft. 5 in.
Shortest man, Mengerink, 5 ft 3.7 in.
Heaviest man, Potter, 174 lbs.
Lightest man, Woodcock, 104 lbs.
Greatest lung strength, Ogden, 340 grammes.
Greatest chest expansion, Callahan, 5 in.
Greatest arm stretch, Callahan, 79 in.
Greatest number of pull ups, Riddel, 14.
Greatest number of dips, Riddel, 11.
Best grip, Abernathy, 60 Kgs.
Best lift, McLean, 340 Kgs.

This year's statistics, Uncle reports, compare very favorably with those of other years. It is interesting to note that this class is heavier, taller and older than last year's Freshman class. Callahan broke three college records for the past ten years, those of height, arm-stretch, and lung capacity, besides equalling the record for chest expansion.

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Hamilton Life.

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Reportorial.

G. H. LYON, R. A. PORTER,
D. C. BATCHELOR, D. E. STONE.

EDITORIAL.

As is reported elsewhere in this issue the Student Tax System has operated successfully in financing the football season just closed. Treasurer Carruth has but one complaint to make of the actual working of the system and that is in regard to the ten or twelve men who have failed to meet the requirements of the tax, either by paying the assessment or receiving from the Treasurer a remission. It is the same trouble that was experienced last spring and is one that threatens the success of our financial plan. The fault is not with the system, which is proving very satisfactory, but with the indifferent attitude taken by a comparatively small number of men.

In order to insure the permanent success of the system we must devise some plan whereby this small body of insurgents may be influenced to fulfill their obligations. It is sufficiently understood by this time that there are but two alternatives for any man. If he is able financially he is duty bound to pay the tax, but if such payment would be a financial embarrassment he may receive a remission from the Treasurer. No questions are asked and in either case the student is entitled to his membership ticket.

The man who makes the trouble, who clogs the machinery, is the one who does neither of these things and it is toward him that the attention of the College should be directed. As a means of bringing some slight pressure to bear we argue that the record of the Treasurer should be made public, that there should be published from time to time a list of the names of the men who are not disposed in any way to meet the requirements of the tax system.

* * *

Acting upon the expressed desire of a large number of men in College that Steuben Field be converted into a skating rink for the coming winter, Professor Lewis, as president of the Athletic Association, has made investigations regarding the practicability of such a plan. He finds that the amount of water that would be required to flood the field would be too great a tax upon the College reservoir. If the field were level a small depth of wateer would be sufficient to make skating possible, but, as a matter of fact, the field slopes from the south to the north no less than three feet.

In order that the College may receive special rates from the insurance companies a certain water pressure has to be guaranteed. Altho the college water supply would undoubtedly be able to flood the field, it would not be possible at the same time to maintain the required pressure. Since there is no other water supply available, it is not at all probable that the College will enjoy skating on Steuben Field this winter.

* * *

Since basket-ball has been dropped from the list of our intercollegiate activities we are wont to consider winter term a dull term and one which furnishes little opportunity for diversion. If we should stop to consider the various activities that will demand the attention and work of a large majority of the men in College from the first of January until the first of April we would be forced to admit that the coming term promises to be the busiest if not the most interesting and pleasant one of the three. On our return to College after the holidays the Musical Clubs season will begin. The spare time of some twenty-five or thirty men will be employed in preparation for the mid-winter and Easter trips. Short trips with the usual number of dances and dinners will do away with any possibility of monotony that winter term may have in store for the Musical Club men. Early in the term the Charlatans will organize and begin work for their production in February. Junior Week will demand the undivided attention of the College for two or three days early in the term and the Manager of Intramural Sports is already busy arranging a schedule of interclass basket-ball games. Interclass and intercollegiate debating will furnish enough work to satisfy a few men and Uncle John is predicting the "best gym. show that has ever been given." Later in the term the baseball candidates will be called out for indoor practice in preparation for the Virginia trip. The usual interfraternity bowling matches will undoubtedly be rolled and the chess tournament is attracting unusual interest. It may be possible but it is not at all probable that the coming term will be dull or monotonous.

JUNIOR DEBATERS ARE TO BE CHOSEN.

An individual vote has been taken in both Junior debate sections for a team of four to represent each section. From the eight men thus selected the class debating team will be chosen. Bates, Bedenkapp, Boone and H. Thompson were elected to represent Section A, and Bagg, Du Bois, Eells and Warren, Section B. The original committee then dissolved itself in favor of these eight men. Owing to a lack of time it has been decided not to hold an intersectional debate but to leave the selection of the class team to the discretion of Professor Lewis. Professor Lewis will not announce the personnel of the team until the second week in December when the Senior team will have been selected.

"IF YOU HAVE TEARS—"

There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when it is generally known that the raging Oriskany, having undergone osteopathic treatment for curvature of the spine, will no longer be subject to those watery paroxysms which have obliged the "facultas in urbe" to exchange their hard-earned shekels for sundry hacks and buggies, and have made the fief of Mahady look like a street in Venice.

LIT CRITIQUE.

It tickles one's vanity as a patriarch to be asked to review the Lit., especially when the interval between the issue over which he will perform the last sad rites, and the issue which carried his own last sad writings, has not yet reached half a year. But we are very bad critics at present, where the Lit. is concerned. We have neither Perspective nor Detachment, for we drove away from the Campus as lately as the opening of this college year—our last memory a jovial spirit popping off a shot gun on the lawn of his fraternity, who, having tasted blood in bringing down a bluejay, was looking hungrily the landscape o'er for members of the Faculty. Moreover, good critics nowadays, those good by metropolitan bench-standards at least, all make it a point of honor to treat their casual victims with the languid flippancy of omniscience bored, and would not give up to enthusiasm for worlds. To save our life, we couldn't write without enthusiasm of the November Lit., which augurs a volume of the magazine fully as good as any earlier one.

Wisehart claims and gets the lion's share of attention. His story is splendid, and gains lustre from its place in the make-up; Wisehart slipped it slyly between an undigested sonnet and the pleasant little skit by Dr. Wood. The sonnet's author, who omitted his name, should say his say in simpler verse-forms or else study sonnet-structures long and carefully. As for the paper on a Japanese theatre, we hope Lit. will bring us more of these glimpses from "Woodie's" tour which the Press's readers didn't get. This clears the table at last for Wisehart, whom we were just sniffing from afar and for whom, as we have disposed of the soup and the hors d'oeuvres, our appetite is now doubly keen.

The best thing the 1909-1910 Litmakers did was to keep Wisehart working, hard and thanklessly, for his place on the staff, by rejecting four in five of his earlier offerings. The experience probably helped Wisehart toward finding his literary feet more than anything else could have done, and the fruits of it are now coming to harvest in an excellently edited Lit., and in the most promising writer the Campus has seen for some years. To be sure, there was no particular merit of pedagogy in turning down those first dreadful back-slanted manuscripts. The stories were hopelessly bad—too bad sometimes even to be funny—but every one held good things in chrysalis. Many of these chrysalids are now happily imagoed and dancing in the sunshine; 'Gooseberries' shows more of them than any of its predecessors. It is a very sweet, very simple, wholly charming little story, told in child-guise out of a warm heart. You feel that Wisehart must have mopped his eyes now and then while he wrote it, for such things are written that way. Wisehart had been a hard, patient worker, without narrative facility, and with his loving interest and enthusiasm far ahead of his natural artistry and discrimination. Sheer labor, that sometimes seemed as hopeless as Sisyphus' task, has made the startling change in three years from the 'Jessamine' days to 'Gooseberries.' If he never gets far from the ground, it is honest ground, wholesome mother-earth—not the unstable humid region of the intellectual air-plant (and orchids are decadents) nor an unreal world of pure imagination. We hate to say anything in criticism of 'Gooseberries'; reading it we quite forgot who the author was, and that a review impended. We have only a caution lest Wisehart bend his style too much toward this naive, child's-viewpointed manner, which a number of clever writers, mostly women, have been overworking of late, and the comment that the charms of whimsy, like Maeterlinck's Blue Birds, are captured least often when one is premeditating and striving hardest for them.

Donald Stone has done a little sketch in charcoal. Charcoal is the right medium for even the best beginners, and Stone will be wise to stick to it, and to keep his work small-dimensioned until he has learned more drawing and gained more confidence. If he keeps working and is always a hard critic of his work, he will be doing bigger things well before his graduation. After his effort comes 'Buckeye Philosophy,' a prose-printed 'pome' by a party unknown to the jury, who has been reading Foley in The Thursday Evening Post, and Uncle Walt Mason. He needs to be told that decent rhyming need not spoil his attempt at homely rusticity, and would make life a less weary thing for people who have to read it. 'Rhyme' rhyming 'fine'—Oh, never mind. If the (sic—very sic) farmer philosopher were better acquainted with bucolics in English and American poetry—by Burns, and Wordsworth, and Whittier, for instance—he would not be moved to clamor for the simple, homely subjects of the farm done into worthy verse.

Next you turn to a K. P. on Poe. Nothing shall induce us to review this, beyond, of course, admitting that we think it one of the great works of modern times. The suspicion has been growing upon us that Life's genial editor chose this particular Lit. for our reviewing as a practical joke on somebody. It will be noticed, please, that the K. P. in question was 'said' in June, and Poe made the Hall of Fame in November. There's for you.

'Orange and White' is Harold Thompson's maiden effort in fiction so far as we remember. It is a good story, deftly told, with conscientious workmanship. Thompson writes with distinction. He has, we think, been reading Stevenson lately, and to profit. He paints in clear, simple colors, of which he is wisely sparing. One wishes the Ku Klux Klan as a comparison for a lawless faction in Ireland had not occurred so unconvincingly to the "wearer of 'Er Majesty's uniform."

'Who's Who Among the Alumni' was a happy thought of somebody and gives Lit. the additional alumni-interest for which various alumni have been clamoring. Beneath Wisehart's write-up of Dr. Gray of Washington and Tusculum University all good 1910 men will know the ample Roman hand of 'Shorty' Sherwin, who is teaching there—more power to his elbow. Dr. Shearer's initials are welcome indeed; we heard of him last as quarantined. And who is doing the book-reviews? They are charming. Is it Lyon, we wonder. Until the Aristarch reveals himself in his might, one will be tempted to coax a cachinnation out of little things like this: "Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer in a book of poems has pleased us." Hull's verses on Indian Summer almost went overlooked; Hull has done very much better.

The Editorials — bless 'em — are still bravely cheerful about football. There is food for some mighty serious thought in the football matter, but we decline to take our battered oar down from the wall of relics of

(Continued on next page.)

LOCAL DEPARTMENT

R. W. DRUMMOND, Local Editor.

COLLEGE DIRECTORY.

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H. G. Gaige, '11, Business Manager.

Hamiltonian.

J. S. Plant, '12, Editor.
James Eells, '12, Business Manager.

Press Association.

E. H. Jones, '11, President.
D. H. Hallock, '12, Secretary-Treas.

HILL NOTES.

—Harper and Johnson, '11, and Slaughter, '12, attended the Delta Kappa Epsilon convention held in Detroit last week.

—Stone, '13, spent last week at his home in Mexico, N. Y., suffering from an injury received in the Union game.

—The Musical Club picture will be taken at Frey's on Saturday.

—The Senior seminar in Political Science met last evening at the home of Professor Davenport.

—The second of Professor Squires' theological lectures will be given in Silliman Hall on Friday evening.

—Ondarcho, '10, has accepted a position as private secretary to the President of Mercersburg Academy.

—J. Sawyer Fitch, '08, and Harvard '11, has been appointed to represent the Law School on the Commencement stage.

—Greengard, '08, spent Thanksgiving on the Hill.

—E. C. Day, '07, recently sent some valuable specimens, collected in Bermuda last summer, to Prof. Morrill for the Biological Collection.

—Walker, '87, Brandt, '89, and Wallace, '09, were on the Hill last week.

—The standing of the Freshman "Life" competition is as follows: Marsh, Callahan, Booth, Bristol, Ogden, Gates, Cole, and Mengerink.

—Scoon, '07, Rhodes scholar at Oxford University for the last two years, has been awarded a scholarship for study at the Theological Seminary at Union College.

—A meeting of the Advisory Board was held last night in Silliman Hall.

—The New York State Classical Teachers' Association will hold its annual conference in the Central High School, Syracuse, on December 30. Professor H. B. Ward will address the afternoon session of the conference, taking as his subject, "Reading and Translating." Professor Fitch is the vice-president of the Association.

—The Outlook for November 5 contained an article on "The Political Activities of Our Ex-Presidents," by Conklin Mann, '06.

PRESS CLUB COMPETITION.

The Press Club, which has been holding meetings regularly on Monday evenings, has completed its organization for the year and is issuing a weekly bulletin containing notes of general interest. It is the object of the Club this year to confine its efforts to matters of greater news value, instead of placing too much importance on the individual actions of the students. In this way the Club hopes to bring the attention of the reading public to the things which have the greatest importance in the College itself and among the students.

On Wednesday of this week at 4:30 o'clock all the Freshmen who desire to compete for a position on the Press Club board will meet at Silliman Hall, where the work will be assigned, and the plan of competition discussed. Only two of the members of the competition will be elected to membership in the Club, because with an enrollment of six at the present time the board believes that the number should be limited in order to facilitate the work.

LIT. CRITIQUE.

undergraduate days, and shove it yet once more into those turbid waters. And as for 'Prexy' and politix—nary word. The quips Dr. Stryker launched at T. R. in Carnegie Hall here last month were repeated to De Gang in the Bowery Theatre by Big Tim Sullivan's spellbinders, and each one got uproarious appreciation. Like the editor of Lit. we refrain. Sweet refrain.

In the Hill Notes, this: "Both the Musical and Mandolin (clubs) are now practicing regularly" — which does seem rough on the Mandolin Club. The familiar notice that 'Alumniana has been shelved this month on account of delay in its preparation', and the change of printer, indicate that the Lit. Board means to publish on time at all hazards—which is only right and proper. The cover design has looked better, me judice, when printed on darker paper, for which it was intended. The issue is refreshingly clean of typographical errors, whereat we join our joy to "Wardie's". Wasn't it Eugene Field who hung in his sanctum the legend: "God bless our proof reader—He can't call for him too soon."

And "Cal" has a Key!

H. E. D., '10.

New York, November 26.

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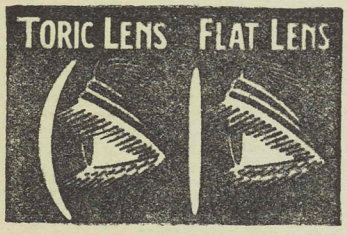

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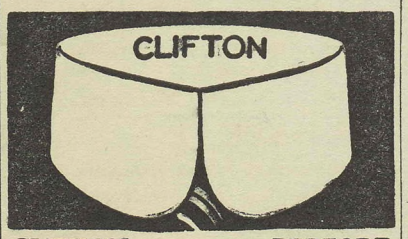

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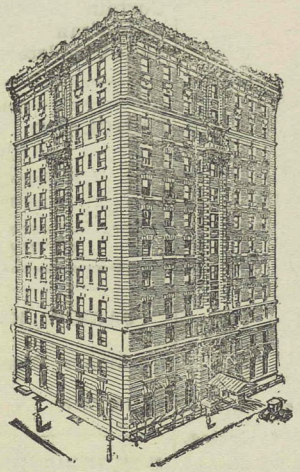

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